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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/015,862
Filing Date	December 12, 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
Art Unit	3739
Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Kearney
Attorney Docket Number	0320-0018 (HOOV 118)

Sheet 1 of 3**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
RR	1	US- 2,004,559	06-11-1935	Wappler, et al.	
	2	US- 3,470,875	10-07-1969	Johnson, et al.	
	3	US- 4,312,337	01-26-1982	Donohue, et al.	
	4	US- 5,033,477	07-23-1991	Chin, et al.	
	5	US- 5,071,428	12-10-1991	Chin et al.	
	6	US- 6,083,222	07-04-2000	Klien, et al.	
	7	US- 6,096,037	08-01-2000	Mulier, et al.	
	8	US- 6,443,970	09-03-2002	Schulze, et al.	
	9	US- 2002/0120263 A1	08-29-2002	Brown, Tony R. et al	
	10	US- 2003/0004507 A1	01-02-2003	Francischelli, et al	
	11	US- 2003/0073991 A1	04-17-2003	Francischelli, et al	
	12	US- 6,517,536	02-11-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	13	US- 6,546,935	04-15-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	14	US- 2003/0125729 A1	07-03-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	15	US- 2003/0093068 A1	03-15-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	16	US- 2003/0032952 A1	03-13-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	17	US- 2003/0018329 A1	01-23-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	18	US- 2002/0107514 A1	08-08-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
RR	20	WO 02 / 087454 A1	11-07-2002	Medtronic, Inc.		

Examiner
Signature

R. Kellins

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11/29/04

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
Sheet <u>2</u> of <u>3</u>		Application Number 10/015,862	Filing Date December 12, 2001
		First Named Inventor Michael D. Hooven	Art Unit 3739
		Examiner Name Rosiland S. Kearney	Attorney Docket Number 0320-0018 (HOOV 118)

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PP	21	US- 2002/0107513 A1	08-08-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	22	US- 2002/0103484 A1	08-01-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	23	US- 2002/0091384 A1	07-11-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	24	US- 2002/0091383 A1	07-11-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	25	US- 2002/0091382 A1	07-11-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	26	US- 2002/0032440 A1	03-14-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	27	US- 2001/0031961 A1	10-18-2001	Hooven, Michael D.	
	28	US- 6,488,680	12-03-2002	Francischelli et al.	
	29	US- 6,267,761	07-31-2001	Ryan	
	30	US- 6,273,887	08-14-2001	Yamauchi et al.	
	31	US- 6,296,640	10-02-2001	Wampler et al.	
	32	US- 6,391,024	05-21-2002	Sun et al.	
	33	US- 2001/0039419 A1	11-08-2001	Francischelli et al.	
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		Country Code ² Number ³ Kind Code ⁴ (If known)				
PP	35	WO 01/82812 A1	11-08-2001	Medtronic, Inc.		
	36	WO 01/82813 A2	11-08-2001	Medtronic, Inc.		
	37	WO 01/82813 A3	11-08-2001	Medtronic, Inc.		

Examiner Signature <u>B. Collins</u>	Date Considered	<u>11/29/04</u>
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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO				Application Number	10/015,862
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Filing Date	December 12, 2001
(use as many sheets as necessary)				First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
				Group Art Unit	3739
				Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Kearney
				Attorney Docket Number	HOOV 118 (0320-0018)
Sheet	3	of	3		

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Examiner Signature	<i>R. Collins</i>	Date Considered	11/29/04
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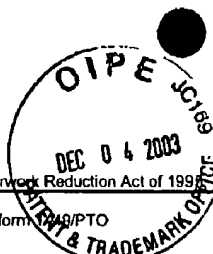
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1. Unique citation designation number. 2. Applicant is to place a check mark here if lengthening design.

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
RL	1	US- 5,323,781	06-28-1994	Ideker et al.	
	2	US- 5,500,012	03-19-1996	Brucker et al.	
	3	US- 5,876,398	03-02-1999	Mulier et al.	
	4	US- 5,891,138	04-06-1999	Tu et al.	
	5	US- 5,897,554	04-27-1999	Chia et al.	
	6	US- 6,033,402	03-07-2000	Tu et al.	
	7	US- 6,064,902	05-16-2000	Haissaguerre et al.	
	8	US- 6,068,653	05-30-2000	LaFontaine	
	9	US- 6,113,595	09-05-2000	Muntermann	
	10	US- 6,117,101	09-12-2000	Diederich et al.	
	11	US- 6,123,703	09-26-2000	Tu et al.	
	12	US- 6,142,994	11-7-2000	Swanson et al.	
	13	US- 6,156,033	12-05-2000	Tu et al.	
	14	US- 6,193,713	02-27-2001	Geistert et al.	
	15	US- 6,292,678	09-18-2001	Hall et al.	
	16	US- 6,356,790	03-12-2002	Maguire et al.	
	17	US- 6,447,507	09-10-2002	Bednarek et al.	
	18	US- 6,474,340	11-05-2002	Vaska et al.	
	19	US- 6,488,678	12-03-2002	Sherman	

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		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

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Signature

R. Rollins

Date

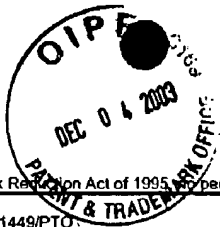
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Sheet 2

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Application Number	10/015,862
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First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
Art Unit	3739
Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Kearney
Attorney Docket Number	0320-0018 (HOOV 118)

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
RR	20	US- 6,506,189	01-14-2003	Rittman, III et al.	
	21	US- 6,575,969	05-10-2003	Rittman, III et al.	
	22	US- 6,610,055	08-26-2003	Swanson et al.	
	23	US- 6,632,222	10-14-2003	Edwards et al.	
	24	US- 6,334,860	01-01-2002	Dorn	
	25	US- 2002/0002329 A1	01-03-2002	Avitall	
	26	US- 2002/0019629 A1	02-14-2002	Dietz et al.	
	27	US- 2002/0115990 A1	08-22-2002	Acker	
	28	US- 2002/0128643 A1	09-12-2002	Simpson et al.	
	29	US- 2002/0082595 A1	06-27-2002	Langberg et al.	
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	31	US- 2003/0009094 A1	01-09-2003	Segner et al.	
	32	US- 2003/0028187 A1	02-06-2003	Vaska et al.	
	33	US- 2003/0060822 A1	03-27-2003	Schaer et al.	
	34	US- 2003/0069572 A1	04-10-2003	Wellman et al.	
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	36	US- 2003/0078570 A1	04-24-2003	Heiner et al.	
	37	US- 2003/0078574 A1	04-24-2003	Hall et al.	
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PR	39	US- 2003/0097124 A1	05-22-2003	Lehmann et al.	
	40	US- 2003/0100895 A1	05-29-2003	Simpson et al.	
	41	US- 2003/0114844 A1	06-19-2003	Ormsby et al.	
	42	US- 2003/0120268 A1	06-26-2003	Bertolero et al.	
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	52	US- 5,125,928	06-30-1992	Parins et al.	
	53	US- 6,332,089	12-18-2001	Acker et al.	
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Examiner Signature	R. Rollins	Date Considered	11/29/04
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/015,862
Filing Date	December 12, 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
Art Unit	3739
Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Kearney
Attorney Docket Number	0320-0018

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**Examiner
Signature**

R. Rollins

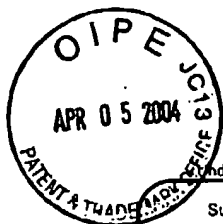
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 2

of 3

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/015,862
Filing Date	December 12, 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
Art Unit	3739
Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Kearney
Attorney Docket Number	0320-0018 (HOOV 118)

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
RR	21	US- 2002/0107513 A1	08-08-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	22	US- 2002/0103484 A1	08-01-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	23	US- 2002/0091384 A1	07-11-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	24	US- 2002/0091383 A1	07-11-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	25	US- 2002/0091382 A1	07-11-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	26	US- 2002/0032440 A1	03-14-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
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	28	US- 6,488,680	12-03-2002	Francischelli et al.	
	29	US- 6,267,761	07-31-2001	Ryan	
	30	US- 6,273,887	08-14-2001	Yamauchi et al.	
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	34	US- 6,277,117	08-21-2001	Tetzlaff et al.	
		US-			
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
RR	35	WO 01/82812 A1	11-08-2001	Medtronic, Inc.		
	36	WO 01/82813 A2	11-08-2001	Medtronic, Inc.		
	37	WO 01/82813 A3	11-08-2001	Medtronic, Inc.		

Examiner
Signature

R. Rollins

Date
Considered

11/29/04

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet	3	of	3
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/015,862
Filing Date	December 12, 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
Group Art Unit	3739
Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Kearney
Attorney Docket Number	HOOV 118 (0320-0018)

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

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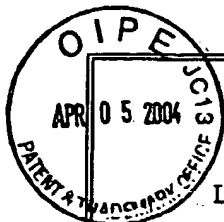
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LIST OF PUBLICATIONS
CITED BY APPLICANT

Attorney Docket No.
HCOV 118

Serial No.
10/015,862

Applicant
Michael D. HOOVEN, et al.

Filing Date
December 12, 2001

Group
3762

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
RR	5,980,516	11/09/99	Mulier et al	606	41	03/09/98
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	5,984,281	11/16/99	Hacker et al	261	71	12/08/97
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	6,013,074	01/11/00	Taylor	606	34	12/15/97
	6,016,809	01/25/00	Mulier et al	128	898	10/09/97
	6,017,358	01/25/00	Yoon et al	606	205	05/01/97
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	6,030,403	02/29/00	Long et al	606	185	03/18/99
	6,036,670	03/14/00	Wijeratne et al	604	96	12/23/97
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DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages)

EXAMINER:

R. Rollins

DATE CONSIDERED:

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			Application Number	10/015,862	
			Filing Date	December 12, 2001	
			First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven, et al.	
			Group Art Unit	3762	
Sheet	10	of	12	Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	HOOV 118

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
RP	1	1,127,948		R. H. Wappler	02/09/1915	
	2	5,009,661		Michelson	04/23/1991	
	3	5,044,947		Sachdeva et al.	09/03/1991	
	4	5,242,458		Bendel et al.	09/07/1993	
	5	5,254,130		Johnson	04/26/1994	
	6	5,452,733		Sterman et al.	09/26/1995	
	7	5,571,215		Sterman et al.	11/05/1996	
	8	5,575,766		Swartz et al.	11/19/1996	
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	10	5,814,028		Swartz et al.	09/29/1998	
	11	6,161,543		Cox et al.	12/19/2000	
	12	6,237,605		Vaska et al.	05/29/2001	
	13	6,311,692		Vaska et al.	11/06/2001	
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	17	5,776,130		Buvse et al.	07/07/1998	
	18	5,562,699		Heimberger et al.	10/08/1996	

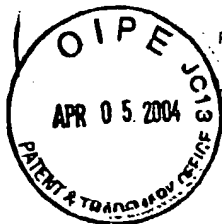
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials ²	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
RP	19	EP	0 450 608	A1	Richard Wolf GmbH	10/09/1991		
	20	PCT	WO 93/25267	A1	Mir A. Imran	12/23/1993		
	21	PCT	WO 97/10764	A1	Valleylab, Inc.	03/27/1997		
	22	PCT	WO 92/05828	A1	Raychem Corporation	04/16/1992		
✓	23	DE	43 13 903	C1	Olympus Winter & Ibe GmbH	09/15/1994		

Examiner Signature	<i>R. Rollins</i>	Date Considered	11/29/04
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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/015,862
		Filing Date	December 12, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hoooven, et al.
		Group Art Unit	3762
		Examiner Name	
Sheet 11 of 12	Attorney Docket Number	HOOV 118	

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
RJC	24	YOSHIO KOSAKAI, M.D., ET AL., "Cox Maze Procedure for Chronic Atrial Fibrillation Associated with Mitral Valve Disease," THE JOURNAL OF THORACIC AND CARDIOVASCULAR SURGERY, 1994; Vol. 108, No. 6, pp. 1049-1055.	
	25	Ki-Bong Kim, M.D., ET AL., Abstract "The Cox-Maze III Procedure for Atrial Fibrillation Associated with Rheumatic Mitral Valve Disease," THE ANNALS OF THORACIC SURGERY, 2000; pp. 1-5.	
	26	HIROSHI NAKAGAWA, ET AL., Abstract, "Creation of Long Linear Transmural Radiofrequency Lesions in Atrium Using a Novel Spiral Ribbon - Saline Irrigated Electrode Catheter," JOURNAL OF AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGY, February, 1996.	
	27	TAJIRO SUEDA, ET AL., "Efficacy of a Simple Left Atrial Procedure for Chronic Atrial Procedure for Chronic Atrial Fibrillation in Mitral Valve Operations," THE ANNALS OF THORACIC SURGERY, 1997, Vol. 63, pp. 1070-1073.	
	28	Re: DR. ADAM E. SALTMAN, New Program in Surgical Electrophysiology Established," Interet Website of Departmental News, Dept. of Surgery, University Hospital & Medical Center, Stony Brook State University of New York (www.informatics.synysb.edu/surgery/electro-news.html); 2000, pp. 1-2.	
	29	MIEN-CHENG CHEN, M.D., ET AL., "Radiofrequency and Cryoablation of Atrial Fibrillation in Patients Undergoing Valvular Operations," ANALS OF THORACIC SURGERY, 1998:65:1666-1672.	
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	33	LAURAN NEERGAARD, "Slicing a Heart to Make It Beat," Article from THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, March 26, 1998 Website (www.nando.com/newsroom/ntn/health/032698/health24_22737_body.html).	

Examiner Signature	<i>R. Rollins</i>	Date Considered	11/29/04
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